

24. The method of claim 2, wherein said programming is television programming, said television programming including audio and full motion video.

25. The method of claim 3, wherein said programming is television programming, said television programming including audio and full motion video.

26. The method of claim 4, wherein said programming is television programming, said television programming including audio and full motion video.

II. REMARKS

A. Introduction

The Office Action dated March 31, 1998 (Office Action) has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendments made in response thereto.

Claims 2-4 and 23 are amended. Claims 2-26 are pending in the application.

Claims 2-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claims 5-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by USP 4,331,974 to Cogswell, hereinafter Cogswell '974.

Claims 2-4 and 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over USP 4,724,491 to Lambert, hereinafter Lambert '522.

Claims 2-26 remain active in this application. No new matter is presented in the foregoing amendments. Approval and entry of same is respectfully requested.

B. Response to Requirement Imposed Upon Applicants to Resolve Alleged Conflicts Between Applicants' Applications.

Applicants respectfully traverse the requirements of the Office Action paragraph 4.

Paragraph 4 of the Office Action requires Applicants to either:

- (1) file terminal disclaimers in each of the related 328 applications terminally disclaiming each of the other 327 applications; or
- (2) provide an affidavit attesting to the fact that all claims in the 328 applications have been reviewed by applicant and that no conflicting claims exist between the applications; or
- (3) resolve all conflicts between claims in the related 328 applications by identifying how all the claims in the instant application are distinct and separate inventions from all the claims in the above identified 328 applications.

In addition, Examiner states that failure to comply with any one of these requirements will result in abandonment of the application.

Examiner states that the requirement has been made because conflicts exist between claims of the related co-pending applications, including the present application. Examiner sets forth only the serial numbers of the co-pending applications without an indication of which claims are conflicting. Examiner has also attached an Appendix providing what is deemed to be clear evidence that conflicting claims exist between the 328 related co-pending applications and the present application. Further, Examiner states that an analysis of all claims in the 328 related co-pending applications would be an extreme burden on the Office requiring millions of claim comparisons.

Applicants respectfully traverse these requirements in that Examiner has both improperly imposed the requirements, and has incorrectly indicated that abandonment will occur upon failure to comply with the requirement. Applicants' traversal is supported by the fact that 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 (b) does not, under the present circumstances, provide Examiner with authority to require Applicants to either: 1) file terminal disclaimers; 2) file an affidavit; or 3) resolve all apparent conflicts. Additionally, the penalty of abandonment of the instant application for failure to comply with the aforementioned requirement is improper for being outside the legitimate authority to impose abandonment upon an application. The following remarks in Section (B) will explain Applicants' basis for this traversal.

1. The PTO's New Requirement is an Unlawfully Promulgated Substantive Rule Outside the Commissioner's Statutory Grant of Power

The PTO Commissioner obtains his statutory rulemaking authority from the Congress through the provisions of Title 35 of the United States Code. The broadest grant of rulemaking authority -- 35 U.S.C. § 6 (a) -- permits the Commissioner to promulgate regulations directed only to "the conduct of proceedings in the [PTO]". This provision does NOT grant the Commissioner authority to issue substantive rules of patent law. Animal Legal Defense Fund v. Quigg, 932 F.2d 920, 930, 18 USPQ2d 1677, 1686 (Fed. Cir. 1991).¹ Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's creation of a new set of requirements based upon 37 CFR § 1.78(b) constitutes an unlawful promulgation of a substantive rule in direct contradiction of a long-established statutory and regulatory scheme.

2. The PTO's Requirement is a Substantive Rule

The first determination is whether the requirement as imposed by the PTO upon Applicants is substantive or a procedural rule. The Administrative Procedure Act offers general guidelines under which all administrative agencies must operate. A fundamental premise of administrative law is that administrative agencies must act solely within their statutory grant of power. *Chevron v. Natural Resources Defense Council*, 467 U.S. 837 (1984). The PTO Commissioner has NOT been granted power to promulgate substantive rules of patent law. *Merck & Co., Inc. v. Kessler*, 80 F.3d 1543 (Fed. Cir. 1996), citing, *Animal Legal Defense Fund v. Quigg*, 932 F.2d 920, 930, 18 USPQ2d 1677, 1686 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

The appropriate test for such a determination is an assessment of the rule's impact on the Applicants' rights and interests under the patent laws. *Fressola v. Manbeck*, 36 USPQ2d 1211, 1215 (D.D.C. 1995). As the PTO Commissioner has no power to promulgate substantive rules,

¹ Accord *Hoechst Aktiengesellschaft v. Quigg*, 917 F.2d 522, 526, 16 USPQ2d 1549, 1552 (Fed. Cir. 1990); *Glaxo Operations UK Ltd. v. Quigg*, 894 F.2d 392, 398-99, 13 USPQ2d 1628, 1632-33 (Fed. Cir. 1990); *Ethicon Inc. v. Quigg*, 849 F.2d 1422, 1425, 7 USPQ2d 1152, 1154 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

the Commissioner receives no deference in his interpretation of the statutes and laws that give rise to the instant requirement. *Merck & Co., Inc. v. Kessler*, 80 F.3d 1543 (Fed. Cir. 1996), citing, *Chevron v. Natural Resources Defense Council*, 467 U.S. 837 (1984). When agency rules either (a) depart from existing practice or (b) impact the substantive rights and interests of the effected party, the rule must be considered substantive. *Nat'l Ass'n of Home Health Agencies v. Scheiker*, 690 F.2d 932, 949 (D.C. Cir. 1982), *cert. denied*, 459 U.S. 1205 (1983).

a. The PTO Requirement is Substantive Because it Radically Changes Long Existing Patent Practice by Creating a New Requirement Upon Applicants Outside the Scope of 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 (b)

The Examiner's requirement is totally distinguishable from the well articulated requirement authorized by 37 CFR § 1.78 (b), because it (1) creates and imposes a new requirement to avoid abandonment of the application based on the allegation that conflicts exist between claims of the related 328 co-pending applications, and (2) it results in an effective double patenting rejection without the PTO's affirmative double patenting rejection of the claims. Long existing patent practice recognizes only two types of double patenting, double patenting based on 35 U.S.C. § 101 (statutory double patenting) and double patenting analogous to 35 U.S.C. § 103 (the well-known obviousness type double patenting).² These two well established types of double patenting use an objective standard to determine when they are appropriate³ and have a determinable result on the allowability of the pending claims.

²MPEP § 804(B)(1) states, in an admittedly awkward fashion, that the inquiry for obviousness type double patenting is analogous to a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103: "since the analysis employed in an obvious-type double patenting determination parallels the guidelines for a 35 U.S.C. 103 rejection, the factual inquires set forth in Graham v. John Deere Co., 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103 are employed when making an obvious-type double patenting analysis".

³ The objective test for same invention double patenting is whether one of the claims being compared could be literally infringed without literally infringing the other. The objective test for obviousness type double patenting is the same as the objective nonobviousness requirement of patentability with the difference that the disclosure of the first patent may not be used as prior art.

The Examiner's new requirement represents a radical departure from long existing patent practice relevant to conflicting claims between co-pending applications of the same inventive entity. Two well established double patenting standards are based on an objective analysis of comparing pending and *allowed* claims. However, in the present application, there are no *allowed* claims. The Examiner's new requirement to avoid a double patenting rejection presumes that conflicts exist between claims in the present application and claims in the 327 copending applications. This presumption of conflicts between claims represents a radical departure from long existing patent practice as defined by 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 (b), which states:

Where two or more applications filed by the same applicant contain conflicting claims, elimination of such claims from all but one application may be required in the absence of good and sufficient reason for their retention during pendency in more than one application.

Clearly, the only requirement authorized by the rule is the elimination of conflicting claims from all but one application where conflicting claims have been determined to exist. Furthermore, in order to determine that conflicting claims do in fact exist in multiple applications, the only possible analysis is obviousness-type double patenting, since there are no allowed or issued claims by which to employ the 35 U.S.C. § 101 statutory double patenting analysis. Once obviousness-type double patenting analysis has been applied and conflicting claims have been determined to exist, only a *provisional* obviousness-type double patenting rejection is possible until claims from one application are allowed.

In summary, the Examiner's new requirement departs from long-established practice because it (1) creates and imposes a new requirement to avoid abandonment of the application based on the allegation that conflicts exist between claims of the related 328 co-pending applications, and (2) it results in an effective double patenting rejection without the PTO's affirmative double patenting rejection of the claims.

Therefore, the Examiner's new requirement departs from existing practice and therefore is a **substantive rule** beyond the authority of the PTO and is therefore, invalid.

b. The New Requirement is Also a Substantive Rule Because it Adversely Impacts the Rights and Interests of Applicants to Benefits of the Patent

The rights and benefits of a U.S. patent is solely a statutory right. *Merck & Co., Inc. v. Kessler*, 80 F.3d 1543 (Fed. Cir. 1996). The essential statutory right in a patent is the right to exclude others from making, using and selling the claimed invention during the term of the patent. Courts have recognized that sometimes new procedural rules of the PTO are actually substantive rules, e.g. when the new rule made a substantive difference in the ability of the applicant to claim his discovery. *Fressola v. Manbeck*, 36 USPQ2d 1211, 1214 (D.D.C. 1995) (emphasis added), citing, *In re Pilkington*, 411 F.2d 1345, 1349; 162 USPQ 145 (CCPA 1969); and *In re Steppan*, 394 F.2d 1013, 1019; 156 USPQ 143 (CCPA 1967).

The new requirement, on its face and as applied here, is an instance of a PTO rule making a substantive difference in Applicants' ability to claim their invention and, therefore, must be considered a substantive rule. The requirement denies Applicants rights and benefits expressly conferred by the patent statute. The measure of the value of these denied rights and benefits is that the requirement, as applied here, would deny Applicants the full and complete PTO examination of Applicants' claims on their merits, as specified by 37 C.F.R. § 1.105. In addition, to file terminal disclaimers in each of the related 328 applications terminally disclaiming each of the other 327 applications based on the PTO's incomplete examination on the merits would deny Applicants the benefit of the full patent term of 17 years on each of Applicants' respective applications. Applicants respectfully submit that the requirement has a huge impact on their rights and interests in the presently claimed invention.

c. Conclusion: Substantive Rule

In summary, the requirement is a change to long existing practice and/or has a substantive impact on the rights and interests of Applicants to their invention. Either finding means that the new requirement is a substantive rule. Since the Commissioner has no power to issue

substantive rules, the requirement is an improperly promulgated substantive rule having no force of law.

3. The PTO Requirement is Outside the Scope of 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 (b)

Rule 78 (b) states that:

Where two or more applications filed by the same applicant contain conflicting claims, elimination of such claims from all but one application may be required in the absence of good and sufficient reason for their retention during pendency in more than one application.

The only **requirement** that Rule 78 (b) authorizes is the elimination of conflicting claims from all but one co-pending applications.

In the instant Office Action, Examiner has not required the elimination of all conflicting claims from all but one application, but instead has required Applicants to: 1) file terminal disclaimers in each of the related 328 applications; 2) provide an affidavit; or 3) resolve all conflicts between claims in the related 328 applications. None of the options in the requirement is authorized by Rule 78 (b), and therefore Applicants respectfully submit that such a requirement is improper.

With respect to the PTO's authority to act within Rule 78 (b) regarding the rejection of conflicting claims, MPEP § 822.01 states that:

Under 37 CFR § 1.78 (b), the practice relative to overlapping claims in applications copending before the examiner..., is as follows: Where claims in one application are unpatentable over claims of another application of the same inventive entity because they recite the same invention, *a complete examination should be made of the claims of each application* and all appropriate rejections should be entered in each application, including rejections based upon prior art. *The claims of each application may also be rejected on the grounds of provisional double patenting on the claims of the other application* whether or not any claims avoid the prior art. Where appropriate, the same prior art may be relied upon in each of the applications. MPEP 822.01 (6th Ed., Rev. 3, 1997), (*emphasis added*).

In light of the requirement of the Office Action, MPEP § 822.01 and 37 CFR § 1.78 (b) are not applicable since there has not been any rejection with regard to the elimination of conflicting claims from all but one co-pending application.

4. The Assertion That Failure to Comply with the Requirement Will Result in Abandonment of Applicants' Application is Improper

Applicants' prospective failure to comply with the above requirements cannot properly result in abandonment of the present application. Applicants respectfully submit that abandonment of an application can properly occur only:

- (1) for failure to respond within a provided time period (under Rule 135);
- (2) as an express abandonment (under Rule 138); or
- (3) the result of failing to timely pay the issue fee (under Rule 316).

There is no provision in the rules permitting abandonment for failure to comply with any of the presented requirements. To impose an improper requirement upon Applicants and then hold the application is to be abandoned for failure to comply with the improper requirement violates the rules of practice before the USPTO. Furthermore, Examiner is in effect attempting to create a substantive rule which is above and beyond the rulemaking authority of the USPTO, and therefore is invalid.

In the *Application of Mott*, 539 F.2d 1291, 190 USPQ 536 (CCPA 1976), the applicant had conflicting claims in multiple applications. The CCPA held that action by the Examiner which would result in automatic abandonment of the application was legally untenable. *Id.* at 1296, 190 USPQ at 541. In the present application, Examiner has asserted that there are conflicting claims in multiple applications, and that non-compliance of the Office Action's requirement will result in an automatic abandonment. Therefore, under *Mott's* analysis, the Office Action's result of abandonment of Applicants' application is legally untenable.

5. Response to Apparent Conflict of Claims

Applicants submit that the presentation of the Office Action Appendix fails to demonstrate any conflicts between claims of the present application and claims of the co-pending applications. Rather, the Office Action Appendix compares representative claims of *other* applications in attempt to establish that "conflicting claims exist between the 328 related co-

pending applications.” Absent any evidence of conflicting claims between the Applicants’ present application and any other of Applicants’ co-pending applications, any requirement imposed upon Applicants to resolve such alleged conflicts is improper.

6. Request for Withdrawal of Requirement

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that Examiner reconsider and withdraw the requirement that Applicants: (1) file terminal disclaimers in each of the related 328 applications terminally disclaiming each of the other 327 applications; (2) provide an affidavit attesting to the fact that all claims in the 328 applications have been reviewed by applicant and that no conflicting claims exist between the applications; or (3) resolve all conflicts between claims in the above identified 328 applications by identifying how all the claims in the instant application are distinct and separate inventions from all the claims in the above identified 328 applications, which upon failing to do so will abandon the application.

7. Filing of Supplemental Oath

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Applicants will file a supplemental oath under 37 C.F.R. § 1.67 for each application when Examiner identifies allowable subject matter. Applicants respectfully propose that the filing of individual supplemental oaths attesting to the absence of claim conflicts between previously patented claims and subsequently allowed claims is a more reasonable method of ensuring the patentable distinctness of subsequently allowed claims.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.105, § 1.106 & § 1.78 (b), Examiner has the duty to make every applicable rejection, including double patenting rejection. Failure to make every proper rejection denies Applicants all rights and benefits related thereto, e.g., Applicants’ right to appeal, etc. Once obviousness-type double patenting analysis has been applied and conflicting claims have been determined to exist, only a *provisional* obviousness-type double patenting rejection is possible until claims from one application are allowed.

C. Information Disclosure Statement

The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's review of the Information Disclosure Statements filed 10/10/95, 12/11/95, 12/22/95, 2/6/96, 4/17/96, and 4/7/97 and have addressed those specific concerns raised in paragraph 5 of the Office Action. It is the Applicants' understanding that the Examiner raised the following 5 issues:

- (1) the reasons for such a large number of references cited,
- (2) foreign language references cited without a statement of relevance or translation have not been considered,
- (3) the relevancy of numerous references listed in the Information Disclosure Statements are subsequent to the Applicants' latest effective filing date of 9/11/87,
- (4) citation of references apparently unrelated to the subject matter of the claimed invention, and
- (5) citation of database search results listed in foreign languages where no copy was provided.

1. Reason for Citation of Large Number of References

The reason that the Applicants submitted such a large number of references in the Information Disclosure Statements was that a large portion of the information cited by the Applicants was brought to the Applicants' attention in the discovery processes in a previous litigation in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (*Personalized Mass Media Corp. v. The Weather Channel, Inc.* Docket No. 2:95 cv 242) and an investigation by the International Trade Commission (*In the Matter of Certain Digital Satellite System (DSS) Receivers And Components Thereof*, No. 337 TA 392, which was direct to U.S. Pat. No. 5,335,277) regarding claims in the Applicants' related issued patents. The documents listed in the Information Disclosure Statement were cited during the previous litigation/investigative proceedings by the alleged infringers in the aforementioned proceedings as being relevant and material to patentability of the claims in the related patents. The Applicants submitted those materials in the Information Disclosure Statement to the PTO at the earliest possible time in

order to file them in compliance with the 3 month requirement stated in the certification used to submit the Information Disclosure Statement before the Office Action was issued as is necessary under 37 CFR § 1.97 (c) (1). In such haste, entries were inadvertently submitted which do not appear on their face to be material to the patentability of the present application. Applicants have corrected this error with the submission of the corrected Information Disclosure Statement as shown in Appendix B. However, it is the Applicants' understanding that not all references cited must be material to patentability in order for such references to be considered. In § 609 of the MPEP, it states,

“[t]hese individuals also may want the Office to consider information for a variety of reasons: e.g., without first determining whether the information meets any particular standard of materiality, or because another patent office considered the information to be relevant in a counterpart or related patent application filed in another country, or to make sure that the examiner has an opportunity to consider the same information that was considered by the individuals that were substantially involved in the preparation or prosecution of a patent application.”

Applicants' position is that information that was considered material in previous litigation would fall into the 'variety of reasons' category as stated above. Applicants intention was not to confuse or make difficult the examination process for the Examiner, but was instead to be forthright and open in disclosing all information deemed to be relevant to the application in issue by third parties.

2. Citations of Foreign Language References

Applicants have re-examined the foreign references listed in all of the Information Disclosure Statements and have either eliminated such references from the list, included translations herewith or provided statements as to the relevancy of such references (APPENDIX A). The inclusion of translations with this response is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (f) which states in part, “[I]f a bona fide attempt is made to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, but part of the required content is inadvertently omitted, additional time may be given to enable full compliance.” The omission of any translations and/or relevancy statements for foreign

references were inadvertent and unintentional and are herein submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (f).

**3. References in the Information Disclosure Statements
Subsequent to Applicants' Latest Effective Filing Date
of 9/11/87**

Examiner stated "[n]umerous references listed in the IDS are subsequent to the applicant's latest effective filing date of 9/11/87, therefore, the relevancy of those references is unclear." Upon further examination, the Applicants have eliminated those patents and publications after the effective filing date for the present application. It is the Applicants' understanding that the effective filing date for the present application is **9/11/87**.

4. Citation of Unrelated References

Applicants appreciate the Examiner pointing out such references that were listed yet on their face appear to be unrelated to the subject matter of the present application. In response to such information, the Applicants have reviewed the cited references and removed any such references which appear to be unrelated on their face to the claimed subject matter such as the patent for a beehive, the patent for a chemical compound and numerous computer printout search results.

5. Citation of Database Search Results

Database search results listed in foreign languages where no copy was provided have been eliminated from the substitute Information Disclosure Statement included with this office action.

The Applicants offer the corrected Information Disclosure Statement (APPENDIX B) as a substitute to the previously filed Information Disclosure Statement filed 4/7/97. No new entries have been entered, only citations which have, upon further examination, been determined not to be relevant to the claimed subject matter have been eliminated, typographical errors have been corrected, dates inserted where possible and the list shortened as a result. It is the Applicants'

intention that such corrected Information Disclosure Statement will help clarify any issues previously raised by the Examiner and aid in the prosecution of the present patent application.

D. Response to Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

1. Specification Support of the Claims

Paragraph 6 of the Office Action rejects claims 2-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The following tables list Applicants' claim language in the left column which corresponds to the specification support in the right column.

a. Claim 2

scheduling a time for transmitting said programming from each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to said at least one [subscriber] <u>user</u> , said scheduled time differing from intermediate station to intermediate station	For example, page 342 lines 29-30 and page 343 line 15 (compared to page 343 lines 1-13) in page 342 line 26 to page 343 line 17. For example, col. 354 lines 1-3.
controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit said received and stored programming at said scheduled time for each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations	For example, page 351 lines 26-32, page 353 lines 18-23, and page 353 lines 29-35.

b. Claim 3

scheduling one of a channel and a frequency for transmitting said programming from each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to said at least one [subscriber] <u>user</u> , said one of said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency differing from intermediate station to	For example, page 342 lines 29-30 and page 343 line 15 in page 342 line 26 to page 343 line 17.
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intermediate station	
controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit said selected and stored programming on said one of said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency for each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations	For example, page 351 lines 26-32, page 353 lines 18-23, and page 353 lines 29-35.

c. Claim 4

scheduling one of a time and a channel and a frequency for transmitting <u>a portion of</u> said programming from each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to said at least one [subscriber] <u>user</u> , said [one of said scheduled time and said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency] <u>portion of said programming</u> differing from intermediate station to intermediate station	For example, page 342 lines 29-31 and page 343 lines 12-14 in page 342 line 26 to page 343 line 17.
controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit <u>said at least some of</u> said [received and stored] programming at said one of said scheduled time and said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency for each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations	Page 351 line 27 to page 352 line 2

d. Claim 5

(1) communicating at least a portion of said first signal to a storage location, said at least a portion of said first signal including said at least one identification datum; and	For example, page 349 lines 5-22 with, for example, page 332 lines 27-29, page 332 lines 10-12, page 90 lines 1-3 and page 330 lines 11-19
(2) storing said at least a portion of said first signal and said at least one identification datum	For example, page 349 lines 5-22 with, for example, page 332 lines 30-31
(1) selecting said first signal	Page 358 lines 31-32

(2) selecting a second signal, said selected second signal containing at least a portion of a mass medium programming presentation	Page 359 lines 22-23 with, for example, page 357 lines 27-28 and page 492 lines 28-30 in page 491 line 30 to page 493 line 22
(3) modifying at least a portion of said second signal; and	Page 363 line 34 to page 364 line 31
(4) transmitting said modified at least a portion of said second signal; and	Page 371 lines 11-16 with page 365 lines 18-21

e. Claim 15

modifying a second signal at said at least one intermediate transmission station based on at least one of said stored first signal and said stored at least one identification datum	Page 363 line 34 to page 364 line 31 with page 354 line 7, page 324 lines 18-19, page 358 lines 31-32, page 330 lines 11-19
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f. Claim 17

(a) effecting a transmitter station to modify a signal to operate at said plurality of receiver stations to output part of a mass medium programming presentation; and	For example, page 358 lines 22-29, page 324 lines 18-19, page 363 line 34 to page 364 line 31 with for example, page 357 lines 27-28 and page 492 line 30 and page 493 line 5 in page 491 line 31 to page 493 line 21
(b) effecting a first receiver station to modify a signal to operate at a second of said plurality of receiver stations to output part of a mass medium programming presentation	Page 358 lines 22-29, page 343 line 26 to page 344 line 7 with page 346 line 34 to page 347 line 5, page 363 line 34 to page 364 line 31 with page 357 lines 27-28 and page 492 line 30 in page 491 line 31 to page 493 line 21
receiving a transmitter control signal which operates in said network to communicate said at least one instruct signal to a transmitter	For example, page 342 lines 26-31

g. Claim 20

storing and modifying said at least one signal at a first of said plurality of receiver stations based on information contained in said at least one signal; and	For example, page 378 lines 8-9, page 379 lines 5-31, page 378 line 25, page 378 line 7 with page 357 lines 21-23, page 364 lines 9-15, page 379 lines 10-12, page 491 line 31-page 493 line 21 with page 484 lines 15-17, page 485 lines 10-13 and page 488 lines 24-27
outputting part of a mass medium	Page 491 line 31 to page 493 line 21 with page 484 lines

programming presentation at a second of said plurality of receiver stations based on said stored and modified at least one signal	15-17, page 485 lines 10-13 and page 488 lines 24-27
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h. Claim 23

[transmitting] <u>receiving</u> a first signal to said at least one intermediate transmission station, said first signal containing a data portion and at least one identification datum	For example, page 355 line 32 to page 356 line 8 with page 363 lines 9-23
receiving at said at least one intermediate transmission station a second signal containing at least a portion of a mass medium programming presentation;	For example, page 343 line 26 to page 344 line 7 with page 347 lines 2-5
(1) communicating at least a portion of said first signal to a storage location, said at least a portion of said first signal including said data portion; and	Page 358 line 26 to page 359 line 23
(1) selecting said stored data portion	Page 364 lines 2-3 and, for example, lines 21-22
(2) selecting at least a portion of said second signal	Page 363 line 25 to page 363 line 1 with page 363 lines 5-14
(3) modifying said selected at least a portion of said second signal; and	Page 363 lines 4-31 and page 365 lines 18-21
(4) transmitting said modified at least a portion of said second signal; and	Page 371 lines 11-16

2. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of the subject application particularly point out and claim the subject matter sufficiently for one of ordinary skill in the art to comprehend the bounds of the claimed invention. The test for definiteness of a claim is whether one skilled in the art would understand the bounds of the patent claim when read in light of the specification, and if the claims so read reasonably apprise those skilled in the art of the scope of the invention, no more is required. *Credle v. Bond*, 25 F.3d 1556, 30 USPQ2d 1911 (Fed. Cir. 1994). The legal

standard for definiteness is whether a claim reasonably appraises those of skill in the art of its scope. *In re Warmerdam*, 33 F.3d 1354, 31 USPQ2d 1754 (Fed. Cir. 1994). Applicants have amended the claims to enhance clarity and respectfully submit that all pending claims are fully enabled by the specification and distinctly indicate the metes and bounds of the claimed subject matter.

Applicants believe that the above recited changes are sufficient to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, and respectfully request withdrawal of these rejections. Applicants provide these specific embodiments in support of the pending claims by way of example only. The claims must be read as broadly as is reasonable in light of the specification, and Applicants in no way intend that their submission of excerpts/examples be construed to unnecessarily restrict the scope of the claimed subject matter.

E. Response to Rejection of Claims for Absence of Novelty

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 5-23 in the present application should be allowed because these methods are not disclosed, taught, suggested, or implied by the applied prior art. For a prior art reference to anticipate in terms of 35 U.S.C. § 102, every element of the claimed invention must be identically shown in a single reference. *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990). There must be no difference between the claimed invention and the reference disclosure, as viewed by a person of ordinary skill in the field of the invention. *Scripps Clinic & Research Foundation v. Genetech, Inc.*, 927 F.2d 1565, 18 USPQ2d 1001, 18 USPQ2d 1896 (Fed. Cir. 1991). Absence from a cited reference of any element of a claim negates anticipation of that claim by the reference. *Kloster Speedsteel AB v Crucible, Inc.*, 230 USPQ 81 (Fed. Cir. 1986), *on rehearing*, 231 USPQ 160 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

1. 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) Rejection over Cogswell '974

Claims 5-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Cogswell '974.

With respect to Applicants' claim 5, Cogswell '974 fails to teach, *inter alia*, controlling said at least one intermediate transmission station a first time on the basis of information one of

contained in and communicated to be processed with said first signal, said first step of controlling including: (1) communicating at least a portion of said first signal to a storage location, said at least a portion of said first signal including said at least one identification datum; and (2) storing said at least a portion of said first signal and said at least one identification datum. Although, Cogswell '974 teaches a central processor 18 which transmits information and receives commands. There is no suggestion of specifically controlling the central processor at least two times based on a signal. For example, the central processor cleans data, integrates incoming data with past UPC data and demographic information, and places data in a memory. However, there is no suggestion that the central processor is controlled a first time on the basis of information one of contained in and communicated to be processed with said first signal. Further, the central processor is instructed by an operator terminal for the entry of data and the giving of instructions for the building of test groups. There is no suggestion that either the data or instructions controls the central processor to perform: (1) communicating at least a portion of said first signal to a storage location, said at least a portion of said first signal including said at least one identification datum; and (2) storing said at least a portion of said first signal and said at least one identification datum. Further, although the terminal operator sends instructions and data to perform various operations at the central processor, there is no suggestion that these same instructions or data are the signals being communicated and then stored.

As stated, a terminal operator sends instructions and data to the central processor in order to perform various operations. However, there is no suggestion that performing the various operations includes: (1) selecting said first signal; (2) selecting a second signal, said selected second signal containing at least a portion of a mass medium programming presentation; (3) modifying at least a portion of said second signal; and (4) transmitting said modified at least a

portion of said second signal. Further, Cogswell '974 is silent as to any signal that controls an intermediate station a first time. Therefore, Cogswell '974 is silent as to controlling said at least one intermediate transmission station a second time on the basis of information one of contained in and communicated to be processed with said first signal, said second step of controlling including: (1) selecting said first signal; (2) selecting a second signal, said selected second signal containing at least a portion of a mass medium programming presentation; (3) modifying at least a portion of said second signal; and (4) transmitting said modified at least a portion of said second signal.

As stated, Cogswell '974 is silent as to controlling an intermediate station at least two times. Therefore, Cogswell '974 is silent as to outputting said mass medium programming presentation at said at least one ultimate receiver station.

With respect to Applicants' claim 15, Cogswell '974 fails to teach, *inter alia*, modifying a second signal at said at least one intermediate transmission station based on at least one of said stored first signal and said stored at least one identification datum, said modified second signal operating at said at least one ultimate receiver station to output part of a mass medium programming presentation. The office action equates the substitute signals of Cogswell '974 to Applicants claimed modified second signal. Applicants submit that headend station 10 transmits signal substitute control signals and one or more substitute programs signals in order to indicate the channel into which a signal is to be substituted, the initiation of the substitution, and the termination of the substitution. There is no suggestion of modifying any signals in Cogswell '974. The substitute signals are simply used by head end station 10 to direct the receiving stations 12 where and when to substitute particular program signals into a particular channel for the sake of tuning the receiving stations whose channels may not correlate with the channels of distant stations that communicate with headend 10. Cogswell '974 is silent as to modifying a

second signal at said at least one intermediate transmission station based on at least one of said stored first signal and said stored at least one identification datum. Therefore, Cogswell '974 is silent as to said modified second signal operating at said at least one ultimate receiver station to output part of a mass medium programming presentation, since the substitute signals do not function as Applicants claim and are not modified.

As stated, Cogswell '974 is silent as to modifying any signal. Furthermore, Cogswell '974 is utterly silent as to transmitting said modified second signal.

With respect to Applicants' claim 17, Cogswell '974 fails to teach, *inter alia*, receiving at least one instruct signal which is effective to perform one of effecting either a transmitter station to a receiver station to modify a signal to operate at said plurality of receiver stations to output part of a mass medium programming presentation. The office action equates the substitute signals of Cogswell '974 to Applicants claimed modified signal. Applicants submit that headend station 10 transmits signal substitute control signals and one or more substitute programs signals in order to indicate the channel into which a signal is to be substituted, the initiation of the substitution, and the termination of the substitution. There is no suggestion of modifying any signals in Cogswell '974. The signals are simply substituted into a different channel at the receiving station of Cogswell '974. Further, the substitute signals are simply used by head end station 10 to direct the receiving stations 12 where and when to substitute particular program signals into a particular channel for the sake of tuning the receiving stations whose channels may not correlate with the channels of distant stations that communicate with headend 10. Cogswell '974 is silent as to any signal that is capable of effecting either a transmitter station to a receiver station to modify a signal to operate at said plurality of receiver stations to output part of a mass medium programming presentation.

As stated, Cogswell '974 is silent as to any signal that functions as Applicants' claimed instruct signal. Furthermore, Cogswell '974 is utterly silent as to receiving a transmitter control signal which operates in said network to communicate said at least one instruct signal to a transmitter and transmitting said transmitter control signal and a first of said at least one instruct signal.

With respect to Applicants' claim 20, Cogswell '974 fails to teach, *inter alia*, storing and modifying said at least one signal at a first of said plurality of receiver stations based on information contained in said at least one signal. The office action equates the substitute signals of Cogswell '974 to Applicants claimed modified and stored signal. Applicants submit that headend station 10 transmits signal substitute control signals and one or more substitute programs signals in order to indicate the channel into which a signal is to be substituted, the initiation of the substitution, and the termination of the substitution. There is no suggestion of modifying or storing any signals at the receiving stations in Cogswell '974. The signals are simply substituted into a different channel at the receiving station of Cogswell '974. Further, the substitute signals are simply used by head end station 10 to direct the receiving stations 12 where and when to substitute particular program signals into a particular channel for the sake of tuning the receiving stations whose channels may not correlate with the channels of distant stations that communicate with headend 10. Cogswell '974 is silent as to storing and modifying said at least one signal at a first of said plurality of receiver stations based on information contained in said at least one signal.

As stated, Cogswell '974 is silent as to storing and modifying any signal at the receiving stations. Therefore, Cogswell '974 is silent as to outputting part of a mass medium programming presentation at a second of said plurality of receiver stations based on said stored and modified at least one signal. Cogswell '974 simply teaches placing signals on substitute channels at the

receiving stations. There is no suggestion of outputting part of a mass medium programming presentation at a second receiving station based on a modified stored signal at a first receiving station.

With respect to Applicants' claim 23, Cogswell '974 fails to teach, *inter alia*, controlling said at least one intermediate transmission station a first time in accordance with said first signal, said first step of controlling including: (1) communicating at least a portion of said first signal to a storage location, said at least a portion of said first signal including said data portion; and (2) storing said at least a portion of said first signal, including said data portion. Although, Cogswell '974 teaches a central processor 18 which transmits information and receives commands. There is no suggestion of specifically controlling the central processor at least two times based on a signal. For example, the central processor cleans data, integrates incoming data with past UPC data and demographic information, and places data in a memory. However, there is no suggestion that the central processor is controlled a first time in accordance with said first signal. Further, the central processor is instructed by an operator terminal for the entry of data and the giving of instructions for the building of test groups. There is no suggest that either the data or instructions controls the central processor to perform: (1) communicating at least a portion of said first signal to a storage location, said at least a portion of said first signal including said data portion; and (2) storing said at least a portion of said first signal, including said data portion. Further, although the terminal operator sends instructions and data to perform various operations at the central processor, there is no suggestion that these same instructions or data are the signals being communicated and then stored.

As stated, a terminal operator sends instructions and data to the central processor in order to perform various operations. However, there is no suggestion that performing the various operations includes: (1) selecting said stored data portion; (2) selecting at least a portion of said

second signal; (3) modifying said selected at least a portion of said second signal; and (4) transmitting said modified at least a portion of said second signal. Further, Cogswell '974 is silent as to any signal that controls an intermediate station a first time. Therefore, Cogswell '974 is silent as to controlling said at least one intermediate transmission station a second time on the basis of information one of contained in and communicated to be processed with said first signal, said second step of controlling including: (1) selecting said stored data portion; (2) selecting at least a portion of said second signal; (3) modifying said selected at least a portion of said second signal; and (4) transmitting said modified at least a portion of said second signal.

Further, since Cogswell '974 is silent as to controlling any station at least two times including the steps as claimed with each controlling step, Cogswell '974 is silent as to outputting said mass medium programming presentation at said at least one ultimate receiver station.

Claim 6-14, 16, 18, 19, 21, and 22 depends upon any one of independent claims 5, 15, 17, 20 and 23. As discussed *supra*, Cogswell '974 fails to disclose every element of claims 5, 15, 17, 20 and 23 and thus, *ipso facto*, Cogswell '974 fails to anticipate dependent claims 6-14, 16, 18, 19, 21, and 22, and therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn and the claim be permitted to issue.

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited art does not anticipate claims 5-23 since the reference fails to disclose every element of the claimed invention, and Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) rejection of claims 5-23 be withdrawn.

F. Response to Obviousness Rejection of Claims

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference to combine the teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the

prior art reference (or references combined) must teach or suggest all the claim recitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, not based on Applicants' disclosure. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991). MPEP 706.02(j).

1. 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) Rejection over Lambert '522

Claims 2-4 and 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lambert '522.

With respect to claim 2, Lambert '522 fails to, *inter alia*, teach or suggest all the claim recitations, i.e., scheduling a time for transmitting said programming from each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to said at least one user, said scheduled time differing from intermediate station to intermediate station. The office action equates Fig. 1 to Applicants' claimed intermediate station. Further, the office action states that, "it would have been plainly obvious even to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to duplicate the intermediate stations for multiple effects in order to provide programming for [a] plurality of different areas." Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that Lambert '522 which includes minicomputer 11 and television transmitters 14 already allows for programming to be transmitted to a plurality of different areas. For example, Lambert '522 teaches providing a menu of available programming, the viewer selects a program by dialing the cable station telephone number, and the computer subsequently provides a video signal representative of it for broadcast over the program schedule channel. Further, "others interested in the particular program material may observe the schedule by tuning to the program schedule channel and tune a television set at a different remote receiving location to the designated channel at the designated time without telephoning the minicomputer. Lambert, col. 3 lines 14-18. Therefore, Applicants submit that Lambert '522 is silent as to any scheduled time differing from intermediate station to intermediate station, since the minicomputer designates one scheduled time for each selected

programming and other interested viewers may tune to the scheduled channel in order to tune their sets to receive the programming at the proper time. Further, although Lambert '522 clearly teaches a minicomputer that provides a scheduled video signal for each selected program, there is no suggestion anywhere in Lambert '522 of scheduling a time for transmitting said programming from each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to said at least one user, said scheduled time differing from intermediate station to intermediate station.

As stated, Lambert '522 is silent as to scheduling for a plurality of different intermediate stations. Clearly, Lambert '522 has no need or teaching for a plurality of stations, since any viewer may view the scheduled video channel in order to tune their television sets at the proper scheduled time. Therefore, Lambert '522 is silent as to communicating to a computer at each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations said scheduled time for each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit said programming to said at least one user. Further, although Lambert '522 does teach a computer that provides a scheduled time for transmitting programming, there is no teaching of communicating said scheduled time for each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit said programming to said at least one user. Lambert '522 only needs the one computer in order to allow a variety of viewers to receive the programming.

Although, Lambert '522 teaches transmitting selected programs over a selected channel, there is no suggestion of transmitting said programming to said plurality of intermediate transmission stations. Lambert '522 simply uses the common transmission path between the computer 11 and a number of remote receiving locations. Lambert, col.2 lines 29-31. Lambert '522 is silent as to a plurality of intermediate transmission stations. Further, it would not have been obvious to include a plurality of intermediate transmission stations, since Lambert '522 already has a means of transmitting programs for multiple viewers, via the menu on the program

schedule channel and individuals who tune to the indicated channel at the indicate time as seen on the menu on the program schedule channel.

Further, Lambert '522 fails to suggest or describe controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to receive and store said programming for a period of time and controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit said received and stored programming at said scheduled time for each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations. Although, computer 11 stores information on the program source location, status of the selected program source, the available channels, and the schedules for each, there is no suggest anywhere in Lambert '522 of a plurality of intermediate transmission stations. Therefore, since Lambert '522 fails to make obvious including a plurality of intermediate transmission stations, Lambert '522 is silent as to Applicants' claimed controlling steps.

With respect to claim 3, Lambert '522 fails to, *inter alia*, teach or suggest all the claim recitations, i.e., scheduling one of a channel and a frequency for transmitting said programming from each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to said at least one user, said one of said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency differing from intermediate station to intermediate station. The office action equates Fig. 1 to Applicants' claimed intermediate station. Further, the office action states that, "it would have been plainly obvious even to one of ordinary sill in the art at the time of the invention to duplicate the intermediate stations for multiple effects in order to provide programming for [a] plurality of different areas." Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that Lambert '522 which includes minicomputer 11 and television transmitters 14 already allows for programming to be transmitted to a plurality of different areas. For example, Lambert '522 teaches providing a menu of available programming, the viewer selects a program by dialing the cable station telephone number, and the computer

subsequently provides a video signal representative of it for broadcast over the program schedule channel. Further, "others interested in the particular program material may observe the schedule by tuning to the program schedule channel and tune a television set at a different remote receiving location to the designated channel at the designated time without telephoning the minicomputer. Lambert, col. 3 lines 14-18. Therefore, Applicants submit that Lambert '522 is silent as to any said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency differing from intermediate station to intermediate station, since the minicomputer designates one scheduled time for each selected programming and other interested viewers may tune to the same scheduled channel and frequency in order to tune their sets to receive the programming at the proper time. Further, although Lambert '522 clearly teaches a minicomputer that provides a scheduled video signal for each selected program, there is no suggestion anywhere in Lambert '522 of scheduling one of a channel and a frequency for transmitting said programming from each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to said at least one user, said one of said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency differing from intermediate station to intermediate station.

As stated. Lambert '522 is silent as to scheduling for a plurality of different intermediate stations. Clearly, Lambert '522 has no need or teaching for a plurality of stations, since any viewer may view the scheduled video channel in order to tune their television sets at the proper scheduled time. Therefore, Lambert '522 is silent as to communicating to a computer at each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations said one of said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency for each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit said programming to said at least one user. Further, although Lambert '522 does teach a computer that provides a scheduled time for transmitting programming, there is no teaching of communicating said one of said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency for each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit said programming to said at least

one user. Lambert '522 only needs the one computer in order to allow a variety of viewers to receive the programming.

Although, Lambert '522 teaches transmitting selected programs over a selected channel, there is no suggestion of transmitting said programming to said plurality of intermediate transmission stations. Lambert '522 simply uses the common transmission path between the computer 11 and a number of remote receiving locations. Lambert, col.2 lines 29-31. Lambert '522 is silent as to a plurality of intermediate transmission stations. Further, it would not have been obvious to include a plurality of intermediate transmission stations, since Lambert '522 already has a means of transmitting programs for multiple viewers, via the menu on the program schedule channel and individuals who tune to the indicated channel at the indicate time as seen on the menu on the program schedule channel.

Further, Lambert '522 fails to suggest or describe controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to select and store said programming for a period of time and controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit said selected and stored programming on said one of said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency for each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations. Although, computer 11 stores information on the program source location, status of the selected program source, the available channels, and the schedules for each, there is no suggest anywhere in Lambert '522 of a plurality of intermediate transmission stations. Therefore, since Lambert '522 fails to make obvious including a plurality of intermediate transmission stations, Lambert '522 is silent as to Applicants' claimed controlling steps.

With respect to claim 4, Lambert '522 fails to, *inter alia*, teach or suggest all the claim recitations, i.e., scheduling one of a time and a channel and a frequency for transmitting said programming from each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to said at least

one user, said one of said scheduled time and said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency differing from intermediate station to intermediate station. The office action equates Fig. 1 to Applicants' claimed intermediate station. Further, the office action states that, "it would have been plainly obvious even to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to duplicate the intermediate stations for multiple effects in order to provide programming for [a] plurality of different areas." Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that Lambert '522 which includes minicomputer 11 and television transmitters 14 already allows for programming to be transmitted to a plurality of different areas. For example, Lambert '522 teaches providing a menu of available programming, the viewer selects a program by dialing the cable station telephone number, and the computer subsequently provides a video signal representative of it for broadcast over the program schedule channel. Further, "others interested in the particular program material may observe the schedule by tuning to the program schedule channel and tune a television set at a different remote receiving location to the designated channel at the designated time without telephoning the minicomputer. Lambert, col. 3 lines 14-18. Therefore, Applicants submit that Lambert '522 is silent as to any said one of said scheduled time and said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency differing from intermediate station to intermediate station, since the minicomputer designates one scheduled time and channel for each selected programming and other interested viewers may tune to the same scheduled channel at the scheduled time in order to tune their sets to receive the programming. Further, although Lambert '522 clearly teaches a minicomputer that provides a scheduled video signal for each selected program, there is no suggestion anywhere in Lambert '522 of scheduling one of a time and a channel and a frequency for transmitting said programming from each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to said at least one user, said one of said scheduled time and

said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency differing from intermediate station to intermediate station.

As stated. Lambert '522 is silent as to scheduling for a plurality of different intermediate stations. Clearly, Lambert '522 has no need or teaching for a plurality of stations, since any viewer may view the scheduled video channel in order to tune their television sets at the proper scheduled time. Therefore, Lambert '522 is silent as to communicating to a computer at each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations said one of said scheduled time and said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency in order for each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit said programming to said at least one user. Further, although Lambert '522 does teach a computer that provides a scheduled time for and channel on which to transmit programming, there is no teaching of communicating said one of said scheduled time and said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency in order for each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit said programming to said at least one user. Lambert '522 only needs the one computer in order to allow a variety of viewers to receive the programming.

Although, Lambert '522 teaches transmitting selected programs over a selected channel, there is no suggestion of transmitting said programming to said plurality of intermediate transmission stations. Lambert '522 simply uses the common transmission path between the computer 11 and a number of remote receiving locations. Lambert, col.2 lines 29-31. Lambert '522 is silent as to a plurality of intermediate transmission stations. Further, it would not have been obvious to include a plurality of intermediate transmission stations, since Lambert '522 already has a means of transmitting programs for multiple viewers, via the menu on the program schedule channel and individuals who tune to the indicated channel at the indicate time as seen on the menu on the program schedule channel. Further, Lambert '522 fails to suggest or

describe controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to receive and store said programming for a period of time and controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit said received and stored programming at said one of said scheduled time and said scheduled channel and said scheduled frequency for each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations. Although, computer 11 stores information on the program source location, status of the selected program source, the available channels, and the schedules for each, there is no suggest anywhere in Lambert '522 of a plurality of intermediate transmission stations. Therefore, since Lambert '522 fails to make obvious including a plurality of intermediate transmission stations, Lambert '522 is silent as to Applicants' claimed controlling steps.

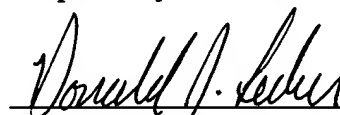
Claims 24-26 depend upon any one of independent claims 2-4. As discussed *supra*, Lambert '522 fails to disclose every element of claims 2-4 and thus, *ipso facto*, Lambert '522 fails to anticipate dependent claims 24-26, and therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn and the claim be permitted to issue. If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claim 2-4 and 24-26 be withdrawn.

III. CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. Further, all pending claims are patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record, taken in any proper combination. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in a condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining informalities to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such informalities.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX A

The following foreign reference has been cited by Applicants in the Information disclosure Statements filed 12-11-95, 12-22-95, 2-6-96, 4-17-96 and 4-7-97. Applicants have further included the following relevancy statement as well as an English abstract (in the case of foreign patents), thus meeting the requirements as set forth in 37 CFR 1.98 and MPEP § 609.

For the Information Disclosure Statement filed 12-22-95:

23 38 330 February 13, 1975 Germany

This reference discloses television receivers that transmit control signals to a decoder/processor combination.

For the Information Disclosure Statement filed 2-6-96:

61-050470 March 12, 1986 Japan

This reference discloses a program engagement device that displays the program content at a television receiver and includes a display output control device.

60-61935 April 9, 1985 Japan

This reference discloses a system that generates, detects, communicates, and/or converts digital signals.

For the Information Disclosure Statement filed 4-17-96:

2 058 681 June 15, 1972 Germany

This reference discloses a television mode arrangement for transmitting, receiving, and presenting coded information.

For the Information Disclosure Statement filed 4-7-97:

0 020 242 December 10, 1980 European

This reference discloses a teletext character alignment process.

0 046 108 February 17, 1982 European

This reference discloses a integrated circuit interface between a television receiver and recorder.

0 049 184 April 7, 1982 European

This reference discloses a pocket teaching aid using a television receiver with a teletext system.

0 055 167 June 30, 1982 European

This reference discloses a teletext CRT display for messages from a composite memory.

0 077 712 April 27, 1983 European

This reference discloses a multi-channel digital packet television broadcasting system.

0 078 185 May 4, 1983 European

This reference discloses a digital packet broadcasting system using television transmissions.

2 496 376 June 18, 1982 France

This reference discloses a teletext display of data on the television screen.

2 516 733 May 5, 1983 France

This reference discloses an error controller for a teletext television decoder.

2 823 175 November 29, 1989 Germany

This reference discloses a teletext information display for television transmission.

24 53 441 May 13, 1976 Germany

This reference discloses a wideband signal transmission with digital to image signal conversion.

DE 30339949 May 6, 1982 Germany

This reference discloses a method for the generation of teletext display having a color character contrast.

DE 3112249 October 7, 1982 Germany

This reference discloses a processing signals from either a colored television receiver or from a video text decoder.

DE 3020787 December 17, 1981 Germany

This reference discloses a television transmission system that sends extra data during a blanking period.

WO 80/00292 February 21, 1980 Japan

This reference discloses a decoder for a television receiver that has a color component that splits signals and recombines the signals into a composite drive current signal.

WO 83/00789 March 3, 1983 Japan

This reference discloses an image display unit which displays received image signals via a memory, wherein the image signals include teletext displays of weather reports or television programs.

Graf, P.H., "Antiope-Uebertragung fuer Breitbandige Videotex-Verteildienste," 1981.

This reference shows an Antiope demodulator/detector.

Heller, Arthur, "VPS - Ein Neues System Zuragsgesteurten Programmanfzeichnung, Rundfunk technisde Mitteilungen, pp. 162-169.

This reference discloses a decoding system for use with a VCR.

Marti, B et al., Discrete, service de television cryptee, Revue de radiodiffusion - television (1975), pp. 24-30.

This reference discloses an analog decryption system.

Strauch, D., "(Las Media De Telecommunication Devant la Rapture. Les Nonvellas Methodes Presentees a L'Eposition International 1979 de Radio (Et Television)) 1979.

This reference is a discussion of videotext, teletext, ceefax, oracle, and antiope.

APPENDIX B

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

CITATION FORM

Attorney Docket No.

05634.0114

Serial No.

08/444,758

Applicant(s)

John C. Harvey and James W. Cuddihy

Filing Date

May 19, 1995

Group Art Unit

2742

UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT NUMBER	PATENT DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE*
	Re 27,810	November 20, 1973	Buehrle	325/321	
	2,418,127	April 1, 1947	Labin	178/44	
	2,563,448	August 7, 1951	Aram	178/5.1	
	3,071,649	January 1, 1963	Goodall	179/1.5	
	3,107,274	October 15, 1963	Roschke	178/5.1	
	3,133,986	May 19, 1964	Morris et al.	178/5.1	
	3,251,051	May 10, 1966	Harries	340/345	
	3,470,309	September 30, 1969	Nyberg	178/5.1	
	3,478,166	November 11, 1969	Reiter et al.	178/5.1	
	3,526,843	September 1, 1970	Sanville	329/104	
	3,546,684	December 8, 1970	Maxwell et al.	340/172.5	
	3,639,686	February 1, 1972	Walker et al.	178/5.8R	
	3,649,749	March 14, 1972	Gibson	178/5.6	
	3,651,261	March 21, 1972	Guanella	178/22	
	3,666,888	May 30, 1972	Sekimoto	178/69.5 TV	
	3,723,637	March 27, 1973	Fujio et al.	178/5.2R	
	3,746,799	July 17, 1973	Gentges	178/22	
	3,755,624	August 28, 1973	Sekimoto	178/69.5 TV	
	3,769,579	October 30, 1973	Harney	325/31	
	3,773,979	November 20, 1973	Kirk, Jr. et al.	179/15 FD	
	3,777,053	December 4, 1973	Wittig et al.	178/5.1	
	3,789,131	January 29, 1974	Harney	178/5.1	
	3,794,922	February 26, 1974	Osborn et al.	325/53	
	3,795,763	March 5, 1974	Golding et al.	178/5.6	
	3,813,482	May 28, 1974	Blonder	178/5.1	
	3,826,863	July 30, 1974	Johnson	178/5.1	
	3,859,596	January 7, 1975	Jannery et. al.	325/31	
	3,882,289	May 6, 1975	Walding et al.	200/11 D	
	3,885,089	May 20, 1975	Callais et al.	178/5.1	
	3,889,054	June 10, 1975	Nagel et al.	178/6.8	
	3,894,177	July 8, 1975	Howell et al.	178/5.6	
	3,896,262	July 22, 1975	Hudspeth et al.	178/5.1	

EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT NUMBER	PATENT DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE*
	3,896,266	July 22, 1975	Waterbury	179/1 SB	
	3,916,091	October 28, 1975	Kirk, Jr. et al.	178/5.1	
	3,924,059	December 2, 1975	Horowitz	178/5.1	
	3,950,618	April 13, 1976	Bloisi	179/2 AS	
	3,958,081	May 18, 1976	Ehram et al.	178/22	
	3,975,585	August 17, 1976	Kirk, Jr. et al.	178/5.1	
	3,990,012	November 2, 1976	Karnes	325/308	
	3,996,586	December 7, 1976	Dillon et al.	340/347 DD	
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	4,008,369	February 15, 1977	Theurer et al.	358/84	
	4,013,875	March 22, 1977	McGlynn	235/150.2	
	4,015,286	March 29, 1977	Russell	358/13	
	4,019,201	April 19, 1977	Hartung et al.	358/124	
	4,020,419	April 26, 1977	Caspari et al.	325/421	
	4,024,574	May 17, 1977	Nieson	358/117	
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	4,027,267	May 31, 1977	Larsen	329/106	
	4,027,331	May 31, 1977	Nicol	358/135	
	4,042,958	August 16, 1977	Saylor et al.	358/141	
	4,044,376	August 23, 1977	Porter	358/84	
	4,045,814	August 30, 1977	Hartung et al.	358/124	
	4,054,911	October 18, 1977	Fletcher et al.	358/141	
	4,064,490	December 20, 1977	Nagel	364/2000	
	4,070,693	January 24, 1978	Shutterly	358/123	
	4,075,660	February 21, 1978	Horowitz	358/124	
	4,079,419	March 14, 1978	Seigle et al.	358/193	
	4,081,754	March 28, 1978	Jackson	325/396	
	4,081,832	March 28, 1978	Sherman	358/124	
	4,086,434	April 25, 1978	Bocchi	79/2 AM	
	4,088,958	May 9, 1978	Suzuki et al.	325/396	
	4,091,417	May 23, 1978	Nieson	358/117	
	4,095,258	June 13, 1978	Sperber	358/120	
	4,096,542	June 20, 1978	Pappas et al.	361/196	
	4,104,681	August 1, 1978	Saylor et al.	358/141	
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	4,112,317	September 5, 1978	Everswick	307/308	
	4,112,383	September 5, 1978	Burgert	329/50	
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	4,120,003	October 10, 1978	Mitchell et al.	358/142	
	4,124,887	November 7, 1978	Johnson et al.	364/107	
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	4,145,717	March 20, 1979	Guif et al.	358/121	
	4,148,066	April 3, 1979	Saylor	358/127	
	4,156,253	May 22, 1979	Steudel	358/11	
	4,156,931	May 29, 1979	Adelman et al.	364/900	
	4,163,252	July 31, 1979	Mistry et al.	358/118	
	4,180,709	December 25, 1979	Cosgrove et al.	179/2 AM	
	4,199,656	April 22, 1980	Saylor	178/66.1	
	4,199,781	April 22, 1980	Doumit	358/83	
	4,199,809	April 22, 1980	Pasahow et al.	364/200	
	4,207,524	June 10, 1980	Purchase	375/22	
	4,214,273	July 22, 1980	Brown	358/188	
	4,215,366	November 13, 1984	Davidson	358/124	
	4,216,497	August 5, 1980	Ishman et al.	358/84	
	4,222,068	September 9, 1980	Thompson	358/120	
	4,225,884	September 30, 1980	Block et al.	358/122	
	4,245,246	January 13, 1981	Cheung	358/124	
	4,246,611	January 20, 1981	Davies	358/194	
	4,247,947	January 27, 1981	Miyamoto	455/38	
	4,250,521	February 10, 1981	Wright	358/8	
	4,258,386	March 24, 1981	Cheung	358/84	
	4,266,243	May 5, 1981	Shutterly	358/121	
	4,272,784	June 9, 1981	Saito et al.	358/127	
	4,273,962	June 16, 1981	Wolfe	179/7.1R	
	4,292,650	September 29, 1981	Hendrickson	358/123	
	4,295,155	October 13, 1981	Jarger et al.	358/12	
	4,301,542	November 17, 1981	Weintraub et al.	455/353	
	4,305,101	December 8, 1991	Yarbrough et al.	360/69	
	4,310,854	January 12, 1982	Baer et al.	358/143	
	4,316,217	February 16, 1982	Rifken	358/86	
	4,318,047	March 2, 1982	Dawson	328/112	
	4,323,921	April 6, 1982	Guillou	358/114	
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	4,329,711	May 11, 1982	Cheung	358/114	
	4,335,426	June 15, 1982	Maxwell et al.	364/200	
	4,340,906	July 20, 1982	den Toonder et al.	358/124	
	4,341,925	July 27, 1982	Doland	178/22.17	
	4,343,042	August 3, 1982	Schrock et al.	455/5	
	4,348,696	September 7, 1982	Beier	358/188	
	4,354,201	October 12, 1982	Sechet et al.	358/122	
	4,355,415	October 19, 1982	George et al.	455/185	
	4,358,672	November 9, 1982	Hyatt et al.	235/380	
	4,360,881	November 23, 1982	Martinson	364/493	

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	4,361,851	November 30, 1982	Asip et al.	358/84	
	4,361,903	November 30, 1982	Ohta	455/2	
	4,365,267	December 21, 1982	Tsuda	358/84	
	4,378,470	March 29, 1983	Murto et al.	179/2 C	
	4,382,256	May 5, 1983	Nagata	340/825.44	
	4,385,384	May 24, 1983	Rosbury et al.	371/22	
	4,386,436	May 31, 1983	Kocher et al.	455/151	
	4,388,643	June 14, 1983	Aminetzah	358/123	
	4,388,644	June 14, 1983	Ishman et al.	358/84	
	4,390,898	June 28, 1983	Bond et al.	358/1199	
	4,390,901	June 28, 1983	Keiser et al.	358/147	
	4,392,135	July 5, 1983	Ohyagi	340/825.44	
	4,393,277	July 12, 1983	Besen et al.	179/2 A	
	4,408,345	October 4, 1983	Yashiro et al.	455/3	
	4,411,017	October 18, 1983	Talbot	455/26	
	4,414,621	November 8, 1983	Bown et al.	364/200	
	4,415,771	November 15, 1983	Martinez	179/5R	
	4,418,425	November 29, 1983	Fennel et al.	455/27	
	4,424,533	January 3, 1984	Rzeszewski	358/167	
	4,425,578	January 10, 1984	Haselwood et al.	358/84	
	4,425,579	January 10, 1984	Merrell	358/86	
	4,425,664	January 10, 1984	Sherman et al.	375/8	
	4,427,968	January 24, 1984	York	340/310	
	4,429,385	January 31, 1984	Cichelli et al.	370/92	
	4,430,731	February 7, 1984	Gimple et al.	370/30	
	4,434,438	February 28, 1984	Rzeszewski	358/167	
	4,439,785	March 27, 1984	Leonard	358/120	
	4,450,481	May 22, 1984	Dickinson	358/114	
	4,450,531	May 22, 1984	Kenyon et al.	364/604	
	4,454,538	June 12, 1984	Toriumi	358/86	
	4,468,701	August 28, 1984	Burcher et al.	358/181	
	4,471,352	September 11, 1984	Soulliard et al.	340/825.44	
	4,475,123	October 2, 1984	Dumbauld et al.	358/114	
	4,476,535	October 9, 1984	Loshing et al.	364/480	
	4,484,218	November 20, 1984	Boland et al.	358/86	
	4,484,328	November 20, 1984	Schlaflly	370/85	
	4,488,179	December 11, 1984	Kruger et al.	358/181	
	4,489,220	December 18, 1984	Oliver	179/2 AM	
	4,489,316	December 18, 1984	MacQuivey	340/700	
	4,494,142	January 15, 1985	Mistry	358/118	
	4,496,975	January 29, 1985	Noirel	358/147	
	4,504,831	March 12, 1985	Jahr et al.	340/870.03	

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	4,510,623	April 9, 1985	Bonneau et al.	455/181	
	4,528,589	July 9, 1985	Block et al.	358/122	
	4,531,020	July 23, 1985	Wechselberger et al.	178/22.08	
	4,531,021	July 23, 1985	Bluestein et al.	178/22.08	
	4,540,849	September 10, 1985	Oliver	179/2 AM	
	4,543,616	September 24, 1985	Brooks	358/335	
	4,547,804	October 15, 1985	Greenberg	358/142	
	4,554,584	November 19, 1985	Elam et al.	358/165	
	4,558,464	December 10, 1985	O'Brien, Jr.	455/4	
	4,563,702	January 7, 1986	Heller et al.	358/119	
	4,566,030	January 21, 1986	Nickerson et al.	358/84	
	4,570,930	February 18, 1986	Matheson	273/1 E	
	4,578,536	March 25, 1986	Oliver et al.	179/2 AM	
	4,578,718	March 25, 1986	Parker et al.	360/10.3	
	4,592,546	June 3, 1986	Fascenda et al.	273/1 E	
	4,594,609	July 10, 1986	Romao et al.	358/119	
	4,595,952	June 17, 1986	Filliman	358/47	
	4,600,918	July 15, 1986	Belisomi et al.	340/711	
	4,600,921	July 15, 1986	Thomas	340/825.31	
	4,605,964	August 12, 1986	Chard	358/147	
	4,611,227	September 9, 1986	Brockhurst et al.	358/147	
	4,613,901	September 23, 1986	Gilhousen et al.	358/122	
	4,621,259	November 4, 1986	Schepers et al.	340/707	
	4,621,285	November 4, 1986	Schilling et al.	358/120	
	4,623,920	November 18, 1986	Dufresne et al.	358/122	
	4,626,892	December 2, 1986	Nortrup et al.	358/21 R	
	4,633,297	December 30, 1986	Skerlos et al.	358/22	
	4,636,858	January 13, 1987	Hague et al.	358/147	
	4,638,357	January 20, 1987	Heimbach	358/121	
	4,639,779	January 27, 1987	Greenberg	358/142	
	4,646,145	February 24, 1987	Percy et al.	358/84	
	4,649,533	March 10, 1987	Chorley et al.	370/58	
	4,658,290	April 14, 1987	McKenna	358/84	
	4,677,685	June 30, 1987	Kurisu	455/4	
	4,694,490	September 15, 1987	Harvey et al.	380/20	
	4,704,725	November 3, 1987	Harvey et al.	380/48	
	4,706,121	November 10, 1987	Young	358/142	
	4,710,919	December 1, 1987	Oliver et al.	370/96	
	4,710,955	December 1, 1987	Kauffman	380/10	
	4,718,107	January 5, 1988	Hayes	455/4	
	4,723,302	February 2, 1988	Fulmer et al.	455/2	
	4,736,422	April 5, 1988	Mason	380/120	

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	4,751,732	June 14, 1988	Kamitake	380/20	
	4,754,326	June 28, 1988	Kram et al.	364/900	
	4,768,144	August 30, 1988	Winter et al.	364/200	
	4,768,229	August 30, 1988	Benjamin et al.	380/20	
	4,782,401	November 1, 1988	Faerber et al.	358/335	
	4,785,420	November 15, 1988	Little	364/513.5	
	4,796,181	January 3, 1989	Wiedmer	364/406	
	4,803,725	February 7, 1989	Horne et al.	380/44	
	4,805,020	February 14, 1989	Greenberg	358/147	
	4,809,274	February 28, 1989	Walker et al.	371/37	
	4,816,904	March 28, 1989	McKenna et al.	358/84	
	4,841,386	June 20, 1989	Schiering	360/69	
	4,843,482	June 27, 1989	Hegendorfer	358/335	
	4,855,842	August 8, 1989	Hayes et al.	358/342	
	4,862,268	August 9, 1989	Campbell et al.	358/141	
	4,879,611	November 7, 1989	Fukui et al.	360/69	
	4,885,579	December 5, 1989	Sandbank	340/825.72	
	4,888,796	December 19, 1989	Olivo, Jr.	379/101	
	4,982,430	January 1, 1991	Frezza et al.	380/50	
	4,993,066	February 12, 1991	Jenkins	380/16	

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					YES	NO
	0 020 242	December 10, 1980	European	G09G 1/16		X
	0 046 108	February 17, 1982	European	H04N 5/76		X
	0 049 184	April 7, 1982	European	G09B 7/08		X
	0 055 167	June 30, 1982	European	G09G 1/16		X
	0 056 649	July 28, 1982	European	H04N 5/44	X	
	0 077 712	April 27, 1983	European	H04N 7/00		X
	0 078 185	May 4, 1983	European	H04N 7/00		X
	1,189,612	June 25, 1985	Canada	Ho4n 7/08	X	
	1,216,977	June 8, 1983	Canada	H04M 11/00	X	
	1,396,981	June 11, 1975	United kingdom	H04H 1/00	X	
	1,523,307	August 31, 1978	Great Britain	H03K 5/08	X	
	1,543,502	April 4, 1979	United Kingdom	G08B9/00	X	
	1,582,563	January 14, 1981	United Kingdom	G08B9/00	X	
	1,584,111	February 4, 1981	United Kingdom	G08B9/00	X	
	2,051,527	January 14, 1981	Great Britain	G06F 3/153	X	
	2,067,379	July 22, 1981	Great Britain	H04L 1/24	X	
	2,090,504	July 7, 1982	Great Britain	H04N 3/16	X	
	2,103,455	February 16, 1983	Great Britain	H04N 1/00 7/12	X	
	2,496,376	June 18, 1982	France	H04N 7/00		X
	2,516,733	May 5, 1983	France	H04N 7/00		X
	2,823,175	November 29, 1979	German	G06F 3/12		X
	24 53 441	May 13, 1976	Germany	H04L 9/00		X
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	Internal Correspondence to John Meyer from Mike Clader RE: Teletext Business Posture, Sept. 18, 1981 and Internal Correspondence to Mike Calder from John Nemec RE: Trips to Zenith, Sept. 9, 1981
	Memo to Bernie Kotten about National Cable TV Association meeting and efforts to encourage Sony to integrate teletext chip sets into its TV, March 25, 1986
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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).	